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Tommy Gonzalez

## NEWS RELEASE

DATE: December 24, 2014

Contact: Darrel Petry @ 915.564-7312 or petryd@elpasotexas.gov

### Three Die in Morning Collision

Date/Time: 12-24-14 @ 1:46 a.m.  
Location: 1600 Joe Battle  
Vehicle 1: 2010 silver Chevrolet Camaro  
Driver 1: Joel GARCIA, 24 years of age, 11600 blk Diana Lynn  
Passenger 1: Enrique Gaurin, 24 year of age, 13600 blk Martha Lane  
Vehicle 2: 2004 white Pontiac Grand Am  
Driver 2: Male **(DECEASED)**  
Passenger 1: Female **(DECEASED)**  
Passenger 2: Male **(DECEASED)**

EL PASO, TEXAS – The El Paso Police Department's Special Traffic Investigations (STI) unit responded to assist Pebble Hills officers on a traffic collision that resulted in numerous fatalities. The investigation revealed that Joel GARCIA was driving a 2010 silver Camaro with Enrique Gaurin as a front seat passenger south on Joe Battle approaching a red light at the intersection with Vista Del Sol. GARCIA entered the intersection against the red light and collided with a 2004 Pontiac that was eastbound on Vista Del Sol. As a result of the T-bone collision a back seat male passenger was ejected from the Vehicle 2 and both vehicles caught fire. The male driver, female front passenger, and ejected male rear passenger from vehicle 2, all died as a result of this collision. GARCIA was treated for minor injuries and has been charged with three counts of Intoxicated Manslaughter. His bonds total \$300,000.00. STI has identified speed and alcohol as factors in this collision. Passenger Gaurin was treated for minor injuries. The identity of the individuals that died in the Grand Am will be released upon positive identification from the Medical Examiner. These deaths are the 62, 63, and 64 traffic fatalities of 2014.

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**Gregory K. Allen, Chief of Police**

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